

HGS in the 1930s
Memories from Margaret Berry

A similar terrifying moment to reciting the Prefect's Pledge was the morning I had to follow A.G.J. down the corridor and on to the platform to read the morning lesson from the Bible. To my dying day I shall remember struggling to read "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" without muddling up the 'aitches'!



I met my dearest friend Ruth Sterry in the First Form at HGS. Our lifelong friendship started over sandwiches in the Domestic Science room in September 1931. Sadly she died a few years ago. As lowly First or Second Formers we felt quite superior because her brother Gordon Sterry was a Prefect. After War Service he eventually became the Headmaster at the Walton Village School near Wakefield.

In the Third Form we had the chance to go to South Elmsall Baths once a week to learn swimming – one of the highlights for me. Our PE teacher, Miss J.C. Harrison, took us. We were very impressed that she had trained at a Scandinavian College or University, and proudly wore its badge on her tunic. Thirty years or more after leaving School I was in the Ladies' cloakroom of Schofields (Leeds) one of our very high class departments stores, and spotted a lady that reminded me of Miss Harrison. I couldn't resist asking her if she had taught at HGS. She had. She remembered some of my School friends.

"I always enjoyed all our special occasions – Sports Day, Annual Speech Day, and the annual Country Dance Festival. Can you imagine dozens of pupils dancing the 'Helston Furry' Dance through those lovely grounds?"

"I think most of us were very proud of the House we belonged to – mine was Holgate. There was great competition between them for Sports Trophies, Choir Competitions and academic achievements. We were always viewing the Stars and Stripes boards."

"Does anyone remember Miss Euler, a slightly eccentric teacher of Domestic Science? I can still picture and probably remember the names of all the teachers who taught me in my seven years."

Margaret Berry